

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Status and Amendment to the Claims

Claims 1-21, 23-26, 28-31, and 33-36 are now pending.

The Examiner is thanked for his kind allowance of claims 1-21. The Examiner is also thanked for his kind acknowledgement of patentable subject matters in dependent claims 23-26, 28-31, and 33-36 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 22, 27, and 32 have been cancelled, without prejudice.

Claims 23, 25, 28, 30, 33, and 35 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. The text of claims 24, 26, 29, 31, 34, and 36 is unchanged, but their meaning is changed because they depend from amended claims.

No "new matter" has been added by the amendment.

The 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

Claims 22, 27, and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Marvin et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,559,730).

The rejected claims have been cancelled by this amendment, without prejudice. With this amendment, it is respectfully asserted that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Claim Objections

Claims 23-26, 28-31 and 33-36 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 23, 25, 28, 30, 33, and 35 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Claims With this amendment, withdrawal of the objection to the claims is respectfully requested.

Dependent Claims

Claims 24, 26, 29, 31, 34, and 36 depend from claims 23, 25, 28, 30, 33, and 35, respectively, and thus include the limitations of the corresponding independent claims. The base claims being allowable, the dependent claims must also be allowable at least for the same reasons.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for the kind allowance of claims 1-21, and for finding of allowable subject matter in claim 23-26, 28-31 and 33-36 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance as set forth in the Office Action. However, Applicants point out that the reasons for allowability of the

above referenced claims are not limited to the reasons for allowance as set forth in the Office Action, and that additional reasons for allowability may exist, each of which may be independently sufficient to establish the patentability of one or more pending claims.

Applicants respectfully reserve the right to introduce, articulate, or otherwise comment on any such additional reasons for allowance as may be appropriate in any future proceedings concerning the claimed invention.

Conclusion

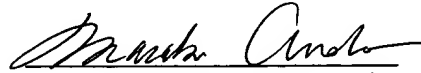
It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number: 12-2252 (LSI Logic Corporation).

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP

Dated: May 26, 2004



Masako Ando

Limited Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b)

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